

United States Attorney's Office Eastern District of Michigan

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PRESS RELEASE

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MAN INDICTED FOR ASSAULT AND GUN POSSESSION ON INDIAN RESERVATION

Howard James Compo, 34, of Mount Pleasant was indicted on May 25, 2010, by a federal grand jury in Bay City, Michigan for assault with a dangerous weapon, felon in possession of firearms, felon in possession of ammunition, and two counts of domestic assault by an habitual offender, United States Attorney Barbara L. McQuade announced today.

McQuade was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge, Andrew G. Arena, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The indictment charges that on various dates between December 2009 to March of 2010, Compo, a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian tribe and a convicted felon, assaulted the victim and possessed pistols and ammunition on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Reservation in Isabella County, Michigan. During one of the incidents, it is alleged that Compo pointed a shotgun at the victim's head before shooting the gun off inside the home. If convicted as charged, Compo faces up to 10 years in prison.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a

reasonable doubt.

The case was investigated by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police and special agents of the FBI. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Roy Kranz.